



## POLLUTION PREVENTION STRATEGY – 2007-2012

### **DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL**

#### **Pollution Prevention Vision**

“An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure,” is an old proverb that rings true today. Increasingly, our nation is coming to understand pollution prevention's value—as an environmental strategy, as a sustainable business practice, and as a fundamental principle for all our society. Citizens, businesses, and governments have begun to view waste and discharges to air, water and land as waste of resources rather than an inherent byproduct of Delaware's society. Sustainable development and business in concert with a healthy environment will be principles guiding industry and governmental operations. Both will function based on environmental management systems, with pollution prevention as a fundamental operating principle. The public will be well educated on the benefits of pollution prevention around their homes, and will have moved beyond simple recycling to implementing pollution prevention in their daily decision-making.

#### **Pollution Prevention Strategy**

To achieve the Pollution Prevention Vision stated above, this document lays out the five-year strategy for the Department to be achieved by the year 2012.

During the next five-years the Pollution Prevention Program will continue to focus on developing pollution prevention capabilities throughout the Department and industry. The Program will also increase efforts to educate and assist the small business community in recognizing and achieving the benefits of pollution prevention.

The Department will continue to support the Department Green Group, which is responsible for implementing pollution prevention in the Department's own office and field operations.

The DNREC Pollution Prevention Strategy will be reviewed and revised every two years to reflect progress towards the goal and to respond to any newly identified needs and changing conditions. All programs will be required to annually report on their pollution prevention activities.

<sup>1</sup> See attachment 1 for details on the DNREC Green Group Committee

## **Five-Year Goal**

By 2012, the Department and industry will have increased integration of pollution prevention practices into their operations. The Department will look to increase incentives for industry implementation of pollution prevention. The Department will continue to demonstrate success in forming partnerships with industry and the public based on geographic location such as watersheds, state and local environmental concerns and community needs. The Pollution Prevention Program will be focusing its efforts on small businesses and non-industrial sectors of society. Our goal is that pollution prevention becomes a tenet of state government operations as a whole.

## **Individual Program/Customer Strategies**

### **Reduction Goals**

Pollution Prevention is increasingly being incorporated into the environmental programs of most medium and large manufacturers. ISO 14000 has become a major mechanism to incorporate pollution prevention into business plans. As part of ISO 14000, it is important for industry to define their pollution prevention goals and objectives within their environment management plans and to define practical pollution prevention measurements. The Department will work with industry on developing reduction goals and offer voluntary sign-on programs to achieve these goals (e.g. 30% of reduction in TRI emissions from 1995 levels by 2000). To measure reductions by FY12 we will further refine, utilize, and develop tracking systems that quantitatively measure actual generation and emissions reductions and to qualitatively measure the potential for future reductions. Accomplishments made under these programs will be publicized to recognize facilities for their efforts and accomplishments, and to encourage broader participation.

### **Small Business**

We have increased pollution prevention training opportunities for the small business community. Over the next 5 years, the Pollution Prevention Program will strengthen its small business focus, continuing to work with the DNREC Small Business Assistance Program and other Delaware small business assistance providers and offering outreach efforts at times and locations most convenient for the small businesses. These will include such things as breakfast and luncheon meetings, working with the local chambers of commerce and trade associations. The Pollution Prevention Program and the Small Business Assistance Program will continue to actively participate in developing a network among small business assistance providers and will work with the Small Business Development Center to provide assistance to their clientele. The effectiveness of these efforts will be measured through metrics which include numbers and attendance levels at meetings, number of assistance efforts, and through success stories of reductions achieved.

### **Success Stories**

Identifying and publicizing success stories have been an important tool for both transferring pollution prevention information and recognizing companies for their efforts. The Pollution Prevention Program will continue to gather and publicly acknowledge

success stories from Delaware companies each year. A major goal is to increase the number of success stories from small businesses over the next five years

#### Pollution Prevention Industry Roundtable

The Pollution Prevention Industry Roundtable is vital to keeping a network of support, and a shared free exchange of ideas among Delaware's industries. The Roundtable provides a venue for companies to voice their pollution prevention concerns and report their progress; as well as, assist each other in their efforts. Attempts will be made to further increase participation in the Pollution Prevention Industry Roundtable over the next five years.

#### Commercial Businesses

The Pollution Prevention Program will continue to target commercial businesses for pollution prevention opportunities over the next five years. Basic pollution prevention education and outreach needs to be targeted to commercial businesses to both assist them in reducing their wastes and to utilize them to educate their clientele on pollution prevention. We will continue to share our success stories, where pollution prevention has reaped both environmental and economic paybacks. During the next 5 years, outreach efforts will be developed for the following segments of the commercial business sector.

#### Hospitals

The Pollution Prevention Program will continue to work in conjunction with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in an effort to educate administrators in hospitals of common environmental issues that Delaware hospitals face and to introduce the national program, "Hospitals for a Healthy Environment." The Pollution Prevention program can offer on-site assistance, and alert hospitals of regulations that apply to them concerning reducing waste and energy costs. The program provides participants with a chance to network with their peers from other hospitals in the state.

#### General Public

Our public outreach efforts will continue to be revised and enhanced to increase public awareness of pollution prevention and incorporation of pollution prevention practices into their daily lives. In FY2008-2012 we will focus on increasing P2 Week activities for the general public. Many local government pollution prevention programs around the country have developed innovative public outreach programs; information and feedback from these programs will be utilized to continuously improve our own efforts. The Pollution Prevention Program will also conduct outreach at events such as:

- Delaware State Fair
- Coast Day
- Small Business Resource Fairs
- Farm and Field Day
- National Clean Marina Day
- Governor's Wade-in Event
- Other Miscellaneous events which we are asked to attend

### Environmental Groups

In FY08-12, the Pollution Prevention Program will continue to carry out efforts to further involve Delaware's environmental groups in promoting pollution prevention among their memberships. Initially, meetings will be held with the groups individually, to determine their interest and the best method for working with their membership. If it is appropriate, we will combine these individual activities into a larger outreach event. Groups to be contacted include: the Sierra Club, the Audubon Society, Delaware Nature Society, Save our Waterways, Citizens for Clean Air, AARP, the Partnership for the Delaware Estuary, the citizens advisory component of the Center for the Inland Bays and others.

### Schools

During FY08 - 12, The Pollution Prevention Program will be working with the Division of Air & Waste Management on an anti-idling outreach program addressing school buses. The effort will provide educational materials to school bus fleet owners and operators as well as school districts on the new anti-idling regulation. The effort will also try to find funding opportunities to retrofit school buses. This project may lead to an additional effort to assist schools in incorporating pollution prevention throughout their daily operation.

### Delaware Clean Marina Program

Based upon the highly successful Clean Marina initiative in Maryland, Delaware Sea Grant, DNREC's Division of Soil and Water Conservation, Division of Water Resources and the Pollution Prevention Program have developed a Delaware Clean Marina Program. The Delaware Clean Marina Program will continue to assist marina, boatyard, and yacht club operators in protecting the natural resources that provide their livelihood – clean water and fresh air. It is a voluntary program that gives managers helpful resources to protect the environment and minimize pollution.

By adopting pollution prevention measures, marina operators can:

- Reduce costs associated with waste disposal,
- Generate new sources of revenue,
- Attract responsible customers that will respect and follow good boating practices,
- Enjoy free publicity,
- And take satisfaction in the fact that they are doing their part to protect Delaware's waterways.

By participating in the Delaware Clean Marina Program:

- Marinas may take advantage of any available cost-share monies offered by the program.

The program will recognize environmentally responsible facilities as "Certified Clean Marinas." The environment will benefit from:

- Improved water quality for living resources,
- Reduced trash and chemicals entering our waters,
- Maintenance of healthy ecosystems;
- And preservation of the scenic beauty of Delaware's waterways.

## **DNREC Programs**

DNREC programs are at varying stages of incorporating pollution prevention into their everyday functions. Therefore, different strategies will be utilized to achieve the five-year goal based on individual program needs and interests.

### **Department Green Group Committee**

The Green Group Committee's goals parallel that of the Pollution Prevention Program, in that they both are trying to encourage and implement pollution prevention opportunities within the Department. The Committee is represented by all divisions of the Department, and is split up into 5 subcommittees for increased efficiency. The subcommittees can work independently or in concert to achieve their goals. The subcommittees are as follows:

- Communication/Education/Promotion/HR
- Policy/Legislative
- Landscaping
- Energy/Facilities Management
- Recycling

## **Office of the Secretary**

### **Pollution Prevention Program**

The Pollution Prevention Program will continue to provide information resources and build these capabilities within the individual programs and to carry out the customer strategies identified above. Also, the Pollution Prevention Program will act as a clearinghouse for the Department with regards to pollution prevention outreach and educational information. Additional functions of the Pollution Prevention Program will include:

- In FY08, the Pollution Prevention Program will be making available monies through Pollution Prevention Mini Grants to state and local government agencies, school boards of education and state run colleges and universities to implement pollution prevention projects.
- Continue recognition of marinas participating in the Delaware Clean Marina Program
- Continue offering training opportunities to Department staff on topics such as process and industry specific pollution prevention opportunities and incorporation of pollution prevention into job functions.
- Continue supporting supplemental environmental projects (SEPs) and other incorporation of pollution prevention into compliance and enforcement activities.
- Providing feedback to the programs with regard to our interactions with facilities based on their referrals.
- Continue sponsoring attendance of staff and management at appropriate pollution prevention and conferences.
- Periodically meeting with program staffs to determine if there is a need for pollution prevention outreach in particular sectors.

## **Division of Air and Waste Management**

The Division of Air and Waste Management oversees the handling, transferring and storing of solid and hazardous materials by regulating, monitoring, inspecting, enforcing and responding to emergencies. The Division also implements the state's air monitoring, permitting and compliance.

Our mission is to optimize the air resources and waste management practices within Delaware by working cooperatively with citizens and businesses to protect public health, welfare and the environment. The major objectives as they relate to Pollution Prevention include:

- Reduce exposure to hazardous substances, including carcinogenic substances, in the ambient environment.
- Prevent exceedences of air quality standards for particulate matter, sulfur dioxide, carbon monoxide and nitrogen dioxide, one-hour ozone and reduce hazardous air pollutants by adopting EPA's "National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Source Categories."
- Attain eight-hour ozone standard statewide and PM2.5 standard in New Castle County by 2010. Maintain an air quality network adequate for providing representative and accurate data for ambient concentrations of ozone, particulate matter, sulfur dioxide, carbon monoxide and nitrogen oxides.
- Promote effective and sustainable cleanup and reutilization of Brownfields in conjunction with community land use plans.
- Achieving the 51% recycling rate (diversion of recyclables) for the municipal solid waste stream (residential and commercial site) as stated in Executive Order 90 that was signed by Governor Minner in 2006.
- Provide timely and appropriate response on a 24-hour basis to citizen complaints and environmental emergencies and enforce compliance for other Health and Safety Objectives.

### **Solid and Hazardous Waste**

Specifically, the Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Branch (SHWMB) includes a pollution prevention aspect in each of its program areas.

- The SHWMB strives to inform and use outreach opportunities to educate the public and private industry about proper management of various waste streams.
- In FY 08-12, the SHWMB will continue to promote activities designed to increase the state municipal solid waste diversion percentage.
- In FY 08-12, the SHWMB will continue participating in stewardship forums that encourage product stewardship for electronics as well as other products.
- In FY 08-12, the SHWMB will continue to pursue reduction in the generation of solid and hazardous waste that contain Persistent, Bioaccumulative and Toxic (PBT) compounds.

- The SHWMB will continue to evaluate and track beneficial use of materials such as: construction and demolition material, coal, ash, coal combustion products, used tires, etc.
- The SHWMB will continue to work with the Delaware Solid Waste Authority (DSWA) in providing drop-off trailers to maximize recycling of materials.
- Establish 3 community yard waste drop off sites in Northern New Castle County.

## **Division of Water Resources**

### **Division Management Section**

Division of Water Resources embraces the principles and practices of P2 and will continue to look for opportunities to implement changes in its document handling, process management, education and outreach initiatives, and permitting activities.

### **Environmental Laboratory Section**

Since 1997 the ELS has implemented several initiatives to reduce the amount of waste it generates from solid to hazardous waste. Through the purchase of newer technologies the ELS has eliminated its production of P-listed hazardous waste and reduced the generation of F-listed solvent waste by 50%. In addition, the ELS implemented a recycling program. The ELS recycles brown glass, clear glass, plastic, magazines, cardboard, batteries, and white paper.

### **Surface Water Discharges Section**

The NPDES Program will continue to work to incorporate pollution prevention into permitting. In FY 08-12, this will include:

- Reviewing all upcoming permits and renewals for pollution prevention incorporation opportunities;
- For selected permits, conducting pollution prevention assessments at the facilities and exploring ways to incorporate pollution prevention into the permit to achieve improved environmental results.

The program will also continue to identify opportunities to incorporate pollution prevention into compliance and enforcement activities, including development of pollution prevention SEPS.

### **Water Supply Section**

The Ground Water Program will continue to incorporate pollution prevention into the Comprehensive State Ground Water Protection Plan (CSGWPP). The CSGWPP is a coordinating mechanism which includes all ground-water protection related programs both within the agency and outside. As areas for potential joint initiatives with pollution prevention are identified, projects will be developed and implemented.

### Watershed Assessment Section

The Watershed Assessment Section promotes pollution prevention through the development and implementation of Pollution Control Strategy regulations. These strategies are designed to achieve pollutant load reductions required by Total Maximum Daily Loads. They are developed by diverse groups of watershed stakeholders called “Tributary Action Teams” and promote the control of pollutants as close to the source as possible.

### Wetlands and Subaqueous Lands Section

Maintain a no net loss policy for the unavoidable losses of wetlands and for the unavoidable physical alteration of streams by requiring mitigation in Wetland and Subaqueous Lands permits. Ensure that permitted activity in wetlands and waterways minimizes adverse environmental impacts. Get support for state freshwater wetlands legislation/protection programs to address the loss of federal protection of Delaware's unique wetland types.

### Groundwater Discharges Section

The Groundwater Discharges Section makes an effort to employ pollution prevention techniques whenever possible. This Section will continue to look for opportunities to implement changes in its document handling, process management, education and outreach initiatives, and permitting activities in accordance with P2 principles.

### Financial Assistance Branch

The Financial Assistance Branch has a Non Point Source Program that builds on the success of the State’s Agricultural NonPoint Source and Septic Rehabilitation Loan Programs of the Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund (WPCRF). This program allows private landowners, corporations, homeowner associations, municipalities, county and state government, nonprofit organizations to obtain WPCRF financing for implementation of nonpoint source activities that support the goals and objectives identified in the State’s NPS Management Plan and WPCRF Intended Use Plan. Our dedication is to improve the water quality of Delaware’s rivers, lakes, streams and estuaries.

## **Division of Soil and Water**

### Sediment and Stormwater Program

The Sediment and Stormwater program is responsible for preventing polluted runoff from construction activities. The focus of the regulations has traditionally been on preventing and trapping sediment-laden runoff. In accordance with Phase II of the Federal National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Stormwater Program implementation, that focus has been widened to include other contaminants associated with construction activities such as nutrients, metals, petroleum hydrocarbons and floatables. Addressing these substances requires a pollution prevention approach. The following three categories of construction site activities will be targeted to prevent contact between pollutant sources and rainfall/runoff:



- Construction Site Waste Management. BMPs include covering dumpsters, litter prevention and source reduction.
- Vehicle and Equipment Maintenance. BMPs include off-site vehicle washing, maintaining equipment in a contained area, and rinsing out concrete trucks into a designated area for hardening and proper disposal.
- Spill Prevention. BMPs include providing drip pans where valves and piping are present, substituting non-toxic materials for toxic ones, and performing preventive maintenance on tanks, valves, pumps, pipes, and other equipment.

The Sediment and Stormwater Program currently provides two training courses, both of which include pollution prevention measures, one for contractors (Contractors Certification course) and one for construction inspectors/consultants (Certified Construction Reviewer course). Both of these programs have been revised to cover the new pollution prevention initiatives. In addition, a poster has been developed for distribution in these courses. The poster addresses various P2 BMPs, in addition to listing emergency phone numbers in case of a spill. Also as part of this effort, a display was developed to cover P2 BMPs on construction sites.

Two recently completed grant projects educated a wider audience regarding pollution prevention. The “Community Open Space/Stormwater Facility Maintenance Project” targeted homeowners’ associations and maintenance corporations in Kent County, Delaware. As part of this effort, two residential developments were selected to install tree plantings and promote open space and pollution prevention. The second project provided a workshop series for homeowner’s associations, which touched not only on stormwater pond maintenance, but also on source reduction techniques such as minimizing lawn fertilizer and pesticide applications.

At the 2007 Delaware State Fair, the Sediment and Stormwater Program partnered with the Delaware National Estuarine Research Reserve to lead a “hands-on” activity for kids on how nonpoint sources of pollution can affect an estuary. Several pollution prevention measures were promoted, such as litter clean-up, washing cars on the lawn (not on pavement), and maintaining leaky vehicles.

In spring 2007, the Sediment and Stormwater Program headed an effort to mark all 450 storm drains in the City of Lewes with an attractive medallion that states, “No Dumping. Drains to Bay.” As part of this effort, flyers were also sent to approximately 2000 city residents promoting back yard pollution prevention measures for homeowners. Similar efforts are underway for Milton in fall of 2007.

The Program is currently implementing a grant project that determines the effectiveness of street sweeping as a means of reducing pollutants into our waterways. Two businesses, both having large parking lots, have been selected to participate in the project where their parking lots are swept regularly (twice a week). Samples are collected once a month (12 months) and analyzed for various pollutants including Nitrogen, Phosphorus, and Petroleum Hydrocarbons. This study is expected to be completed in December; however,

as part of this project, participants will be encouraged to continue implementing this BMP as a means of improving water quality in Delaware waters.

The Sediment and Stormwater Program will continue to incorporate and promote new P2 measures as they become available.

#### Non-Point Source Pollution

The basic philosophy of the Nonpoint Source (NPS) Program is to prevent pollution before it happens, mainly through the installation of best management practices in urban, agriculture and stormwater sectors. The NPS Program will incorporate pollution prevention input through the development and implementation of the Non-Point Source Management Plan for Delaware. As areas for potential pollution prevention assistance to sources of non-point source pollution are identified, collaborative projects will be developed and implemented (e.g. residential stormwater quantity/quality management, marinas, etc.).

#### **Delaware Coastal Programs**

##### Federal Consistency

The Delaware Coastal Management Program (DCMP) conducts consistency reviews for all federally funded projects. The DCMP includes pollution prevention language when appropriate, as part of federal consistency approval of grants-in-aid, this correspondence suggests the grant recipient incorporate pollution prevention into project design and implementation. A pollution prevention policy has been incorporated into the policy document for federal consistency reviews. The pollution prevention policy enables the DCMP to require projects to identify expected wastes and evaluate opportunities to minimize waste generation.

##### Coastal Nonpoint Program

The Coastal Nonpoint Program ensures that the State of Delaware has the tools needed to address polluted runoff and is focused on preventing pollution before it occurs through the implementation of management measures. A consistent set of measurement measures was established to use in controlling polluted runoff from a variety of sources and includes enforceable policies and mechanisms to ensure implementation of the measures.

##### Delaware National Estuarine Research Reserve

The Reserve is one of 25 National Estuarine Research Reserves in the United States committed to conducting estuarine research and education. Each Reserve is a partnership between the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and a state entity (DNREC in this instance). Pollution prevention is incorporated into programs for the general public, school groups, and appropriate coastal-decision maker audiences.

##### Shoreline and Waterway Management Section

Biodegradable Hydraulic Fluid

The Shoreline and Waterway Management Section operates two dredges with associated marine equipment and two aquatic weed harvesters in the State's Inland Bays. Due to the environmentally sensitive area in which this equipment operates, the dredges and harvesters are now equipped with biodegradable hydraulic fluid. This practice began in 2005. The fluid, Royal BioGuard 3000, is manufactured by Anderol. Because of its biodegradability, a leakage of BioGuard is not considered an oil spill according to EPA or Coast Guard requirements. However, this does not preclude Section crew members from following established protocol and reporting spills to the Coast Guard and the Department's Enforcement Section when they occur. As part of its pollution prevention activities, the Section recycles or reuses materials at its field operations facility in Lewes, including:

- Scrap metals are sold to a metals recycler.
- Uses Division of Air and Waste Management approved hazardous waste transporters to remove all hazardous waste (e.g. used oil) generated on site for proper disposal off site.
- Worn HDPE (plastic) dredge pipe is used as drain pipe by the Drainage Section, used as pile and dock fenders or sold to a plastics recycler.

The Construction Regulations Program of the Shoreline and Waterway Management Section is working to eliminate all construction below Base Flood elevation in areas located seaward of the DNREC Building Line. The absence of structures in this location results in less storm debris following coastal storms and less debris in our landfills. Also, the need to use additional construction materials to replace storm damaged structures is reduced.

### **Division of Parks and Recreation**

#### **State Parks**

The Division of Parks and Recreation and the Pollution prevention Program will work together to provide educational programs for both adults and children through their nature center and campground programs. These programs will be designed to be both entertaining and educational.

The state park visitor and nature centers have been an effective means to provide pollution prevention written information to the public. This mechanism will continue to be utilized for any new publications which are appropriate.

The Division will take measures to reduce its use of arsenic treated lumber and use plastic recycled lumber in its place when applicable. The Division will also try to use more recycled products when able. The Division will continue to host its Christmas Tree Recycling Program as funds permit. The "Carry-In - Carry-Out Trash Program" which fosters stewardship in the land and personal responsibility in trash removal will be continued in each of our parks. We will also continue to work with Delaware Solid Waste to improve our Recycling centers on park land.

### Division Green Team

The Parks and Recreation Green Team consists of representatives from each park, and meet regularly to discuss progressive steps toward making all of the Division's Park locations more "Green." Changes have been made in this respect already, including: using non-hazardous cleaning alternatives, installing waterless urinals, use of recyclables during education/outreach events, installing more efficient lighting, etc. The Parks Green Team will continue to look for progressive "green" projects, which will protect our environment first-hand and allow the visiting public to observe such an effort.

## Attachment I

### DNREC Green Group Committee

#### **Purpose:**

The Green Group Committee will be responsible for:

- The Green Group's goal is to "Implement DNREC's Mission From Within."
- Identifying and implementing environmentally and ecologically friendly, or "green," opportunities within DNREC operations.
- Encouraging "green"-minded behavioral and policy changes within the Department.
- Publicizing advances made by the committee through the Department Newsletter, Intranet, and Email.
- Lead by example, so that other State agencies may follow our initiative.
- Review grant applications for Department specific projects and award grants as applicable
- The group will review award nominations and vote on possible recipients of Environmental Excellence awards, or other closely related awards.

#### **Membership:**

The committee will be comprised of representatives from each Division, who as an integral part of their respective job duties and responsibilities, apply the principals and practice of "green" thinking. The committee is divided into subcommittees for more focused involvement on specific projects and areas of the Department. The subcommittees are as follows:

- Communication/Education
  - This subcommittee is in charge of disseminating the group's information within the Department.
- Policy/Legislative
  - This subcommittee looks for "green" opportunities in Department policy and state legislature.
- Landscaping
  - This subcommittee's goal is to improve the appearance of the Department's grounds with native species and environmentally sound management.
- Energy/Facilities Management
  - This subcommittee is charged with the task of identifying and implementing energy saving changes in the Department.
- Recycling
  - This subcommittee researches the waste minimization opportunities and behavior in the Department, so that it can identify and implement more successful recycling opportunities.

## **DNREC Pollution Prevention Policy**

The Delaware Pollution Prevention Act passed in 1990 (amended 1996) established as a policy of the State that “waste that is generated should be, in order of priority, reduced at its source, recovered, reused, recycled, treated or disposed of so as to minimize the present and future threat to human health and the environment” (7 Del. Code Chapter 78). It is this Department’s policy to see that the wishes of the General Assembly are carried out at every level of our organization and at every conceivable opportunity, that pollution prevention be the highest priority in our environmental protection efforts. This would include practicing pollution prevention in our business operations as well as incorporating pollution prevention in every instance where we might have the opportunity to facilitate implementation of pollution prevention practices in the regulated community.

The Delaware Pollution Prevention Act defines pollution prevention as “any practice which reduces the amount of any hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant entering any waste stream or otherwise released into the environment (including fugitive emissions) prior to recycling, treatment, or disposal; and reduces the hazards to public health and the environment associated with the release of such substances, pollutants, or contaminants. The term includes equipment or technology modifications, process or procedure modifications, reformulation or redesign of products, substitution of raw materials, and improvements in housekeeping maintenance, training or inventory control”.

Within this agency, it shall be our policy to, in order of priority, “reduce, reuse, or recycle” any potential waste product, including paper (e.g. – by using as little as possible through use of electronic capabilities and 2-sided copying), chemicals (both hazardous and non-hazardous chemicals in our laboratory and at field sites), and any other waste product generated in DNREC offices, in our parks, our natural areas, during outreach campaigns, etc.

As a regulatory agency, we will facilitate pollution prevention by educating our permitted and other customers on the benefits and techniques of pollution prevention and waste minimization. We will make every effort, without exceeding our regulatory authorities, to further the implementation of pollution prevention in the private sector.

Pollution prevention is probably the single-most important step we can take in furthering the concept of sustainable development in Delaware. We have already done much since passage of the Delaware law in 1990, but there will always be opportunities for doing more. It is imperative that we, as employees in DNREC and environmentalists, search out and capitalize on those opportunities.